

January 26, 2006

Those of us who live in the area of Pleasant Lake in Freedom Township, Washtenaw County, are confronting the possibility of a very damaging effect on our lake, its contiguous wetlands, and surrounding drinking water wells.

A gravel operation located about ½ mile from our natural lake, and just one of a number of gravel extraction operations in our township, is proposing greatly expanding its mining operations, which will result in the creation of a 125 acre, 140 foot deep, lake. The area residents are very concerned about the future effects to our community should this be allowed to take place, and yet at present there is little we have at our disposal to counter something as potentially devastating as this scenario is likely to produce.

The people of Michigan deserve laws to protect and support us when faced with a challenge such as the one we are now confronting.

Without laws to support our position, it becomes a tremendous burden on the citizens of an area, both emotionally and financially, to protect and defend themselves from large, well-financed, corporations who seek to promote their agenda, without regard for individual rights and concerns, and the welfare of the community at large.

We therefore strongly urge that the proposed amendments to current legislation be enacted. The future of Michigan depends on this.

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